

Year 9 : Cycle 1: Religious Studies

| Section 1: Christian Beliefs about God | | Section 2: The structure of Christianity | |
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| Omnipotent: | Belief that God is all-powerful. | Denomination: | An established subgroup of a religion (e.g. Roman Catholicism). |
| Omniscient: | Belief that God is all-knowing. | Roman Catholic: | Largest, oldest denomination of Christianity; the Pope is the leader. |
| Omnibenevolent: | Belief that God is all-loving. | Orthodox Church: | Denomination of Christianity; old as Roman Catholicism; popular in the East. |
| Just: | Belief that God's decisions and justice is completely fair. | Protestant: | Term for various global denominations of Christianity (e.g. Church of England) that were born out of the 16th century Reformation. |

| Section 3: The problem of evil | | Section 4: The Trinity | |
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| Atheist: | A person who believes there is no God/gods | Trinity: | Christian belief in one God who manifests simultaneously as three Persons. |
| Problem of evil: | An atheist argument that evil exists because there is no omnipotent, omniscient, and omnibenevolent God, for His power, knowledge and love would prevent it. | The Father: | First Person of the Trinity; the Creator of all things. |
| The Fall: | The story of Adam and Eve's betrayal of God in Genesis (first book of the Bible); some believe God gave mankind free will which we used to create evil, not God. | The Son: | Second Person of the Trinity; the incarnation of God. |
| | | The Holy Spirit: | Third Person of the Trinity; is unseen and is present throughout the universe. |

| Section 5: Christian perspectives | | Section 6: Christian views on creation | |
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| Fundamentalist: | A believer who takes their holy scripture literally as it is believed to be the true word of God (e.g. Genesis' 6 days of creation). | Yom: | Hebrew for 'day' or 'era'; Genesis may describe the world's creation over 6 days or 6 eras of time – the latter view makes it more compatible with the scientific view on creation. |
| | | Big Bang theory: | The leading scientific theory that the universe was made; there is no known cause to the 'Big Bang', so liberalist Christians believe this must have been God. |
| Liberalist: | A believer who is more open to interpretations of the Bible or who may view parts of the Bible as being either unsuitable to the modern era or unreliable. | 13.8 billion years: | The age of the universe according to the Big Bang theory. |
| | | 6,000 years: | The universe's age according to some fundamentalists, based on the Bible. |

| Section 7: Biblical extracts concerning creation | | Section 8: Christian perspectives | |
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| “In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth”: | First line of the book of Genesis. | Traditionalist: | Someone who aims to maintain old values and beliefs and stay fairly true to what scripture instructs (e.g. traditionalist Christians hold patriarchal views because Adam is made first, then Eve is made as his companion, implying superiority). |
| “Let there be Light”: | Extract from Genesis; God creates light by His command alone. | | |
| “In His image He made them... both male and female.”: | Extract from Genesis; God creates mankind uniquely. | Patriarchal: | Describes something male-led, for example an organisation purposely ran by men (e.g. the Roman Catholic Church forbids women from being ordained). |

| Section 9: Nicene Creed | | Section 10: Biblical extracts concerning Jesus Christ | |
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| Nicene Creed: | A declaration of faith made in the 4 th century by Christian leaders clarifying key Christian beliefs on the Trinity. | “The Word was with God and the Word was God... the Word became flesh and made His home among us”: | Extract from John’s gospel implying Jesus is the incarnation of God. |
| “We believe in One God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth”: | First line of the Nicene Creed. | “For God so loved the world, He gave His only Son, so that those who believe in him shall not die but have eternal life.”: | Extract from John’s gospel suggesting belief in Jesus is key to gaining salvation. |

| Section 11: Key terminology concerning Jesus Christ | | Section 12: Messianic prophecy | |
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| Incarnation: | Belief that Jesus was the human form of God on Earth. | Prophet: | A messenger of God. |
| Messiah: | Belief that Jesus was the saviour of mankind who Jewish prophets had written about centuries before Jesus’ lifetime. | Prophecy: | Messages from God given to humanity by a prophet. |
| Political Messiah: | Many Jews expected a revolutionary Messiah to come, not a heavenly one like Christians believe Jesus is. | Isaiah: | A key Jewish prophet who made prophecies about the Messiah’s coming; his writings are in the Old Testament. |

| Section 13: Biblical extracts concerning Messianic prophecy | |
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| “The Lord shall give you a sign: a virgin shall conceive”: | One of the key prophecies about the Messiah in the Old Testament (in this case, by Isaiah). |
| “On the third day He will raise us up, that we may live in His presence”: | Extract from Hosea (one of the prophets whose writings feature in the Old Testament) |